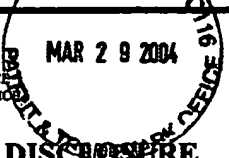


|  |   |    |   |  |                    |
|--|---|----|---|--|--------------------|
| Form PTO-1449  |   |    |   |  |                    |
| US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE<br>PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE   |   |    |   | <i>Complete if Known</i>   |                    |
| <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE<br/>STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b><br><br><i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i> |   |    |   | Application Number   | 10/606,485         |
|  |   |    |   | Filing Date  | June 26, 2003      |
|  |   |    |   | First Named Inventor   | Yasuharu SHIRAI    |
|  |   |    |   | Art Unit   | 2881               |
|  |   |    |   | Examiner Name  | James J. Leybourne |
|  |   |    |   | Confirmation No.   | 5643               |
| Sheet  | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket No.  | 782_231            |

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Exam. Initial |    | Document Number | Date       | Name                 | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
|---------------|----|-----------------|------------|----------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|-------------|
|               | AA | 2002/0030160 A1 | 03-14-2002 | Greaves, Roderick G. |                |       |           |             |
|               |    |                 |            |                      |                |       |           |             |
|               |    |                 |            |                      |                |       |           |             |
|               |    |                 |            |                      |                |       |           |             |
|               |    |                 |            |                      |                |       |           |             |
|               |    |                 |            |                      |                |       |           |             |

### U.S. COPENDING APPLICATIONS

| Exam. Initial |  | Application/<br>Publication Number | Filing/<br>Publication Date | Inventor Name | Our Docket No. | Class | Sub Class |
|---------------|--|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-------|-----------|
|               |  |                                    |                             |               |                |       |           |
|               |  |                                    |                             |               |                |       |           |
|               |  |                                    |                             |               |                |       |           |

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | Document Number | Date       | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation             | Abstract |
|--|----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|-----------|-------------------------|----------|
|  | AB | 2001-116706 A1  | 04-27-2001 | JP      |       |           | JPO Machine Translation | ✓        |
|  | AC | 05-288694 A1    | 11-02-1993 | JP      |       |           | JPO Machine Translation | ✓        |
|  |    |                 |            |         |       |           |                         |          |
|  |    |                 |            |         |       |           |                         |          |
|  |    |                 |            |         |       |           |                         |          |

### OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages etc.)

|  |    |  |
|--|----|--|
|  | AD | Barbieri, et. al., "Nondestructive Positron-Lifetime Measurements During Fatigue of Austenitic Stainless Steel Using a Mobile Positron Beam," Applied Physics Letters, American Institute of Physics., NY, Vol. 77, No. 12, 18 September 2000, pages 1911-1913, XP000964231. |
|  |    |  |

|           |  |                  |  |
|-----------|--|------------------|--|
| Examiner: |  | Date Considered: |  |
|-----------|--|------------------|--|

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.